

Fight Back Platform

A Draft for the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club

January 12, 2017

Meeting to Discuss, Modify, and Organize

Thursday, January 26, 7:00 pm

Niebyl-Proctor Library, 6501 Telegraph (near Alcatraz)

The ascendancy of Donald Trump to the Presidency of the United States along with Republican majorities in both the House and the Senate presents new and unanticipated challenges to those who are committed to the common good, the security and dignity of all people, economic and social justice, and respect for the earth and the environment.

As the Trump administration moves to undermine and dismantle legislation and regulation that secures health care, environmental protection, Social Security, and protection from the practices of large corporations and financial institutions, the American majority who did not vote for Trump—and many who did—will be ready to resist the policies and practices of Republican domination of our government.

In California, a blue state that overwhelmingly voted Democratic, a major component of this resistance will be the effort to compensate on a state level for the depredations of the Trump administration.

This DRAFT platform is an effort to outline the range of issues that the Wellstone Club will work to advance—in cooperation with a wide range of political organizations—in California. Our objective is to build a firewall at the borders of California to keep the disastrous policies of Donald Trump from affecting our state AND to serve as a living demonstration that a state with a Democratic majority can adopt and implement progressive solutions to economic and social problems.

Our commitment is:

1. Support the process of making California a Sanctuary State that will defend our immigrant, Muslim, LGBTQ, and disabled population from violence, harassment, and deportation.
2. In response to threats to Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act, establish a Universal Health Care system in California and guarantee that all women in California have access to affordable family planning and abortion services.
3. As Trump's national policy moves toward increasing reliance on fossil fuels, accelerate California's move toward locally based renewable energy, ban all fracking, make carbon emissions more expensive, and penalize corporations responsible for environmental pollution more severely.
4. Reform Proposition 13, fairly reassessing commercial and industrial property in a regular, routine manner.

5. Restore full K–12 per-student funding, so that California again becomes first in the nation in providing high-quality public education, and restore free tuition in California public higher education, to maintain California’s world-leading, vibrant economy and to reverse efforts to turn public education over to the private sector.
6. End all contracts and relationships between jails and prisons in California and privately owned prisons or contractors. Legislatively repeal the *Copley* decision, which prohibits all public access to police misconduct records, including records of serious injury and death inflicted by individual officers in California police departments. <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/politics/sdut-sweeping-impact-copley-decision-significance-2015may30-story.html>.
7. Establish clear steps for increasing the state minimum wage to a living wage, providing pay equity for women, and supporting workers seeking union representation.
8. Develop major funding sources to aid local communities in constructing low-income and work-force housing.
9. Following the example of North Dakota, establish a California State Bank.
10. Repeal the Costa-Hawkins Act, which prohibits rent control on newly constructed apartments.